GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5259
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2008
PACKAGED DRINKING WATER
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the packaged water bottles exposed direct sunlight or stored in warm conditions become unsuitable for consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the instructions on such bottles are written in English which most shopkeepers do not understand;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): The Indian Institute of Packaging under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has informed that water i.e. packaged water in bottles and consumed by human beings as defined is affected due to direct sunlight or temperature conditions at which it is stored. Some of the factors that play a prominent role in the spoilage of the product are the period of exposure to atmosphere,temperature limits,type of packaging materials used,initial quality of water before it is packed etc.

(c) to (e): Rule 33 of Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 prescribes that the particulars of declaration on the label shall be in English or Hindi.The rule,however,does not prevent use of any other language in addition to the languages required under this rule.